

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02  
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R 160317Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1067  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS JAKARTA 6285

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR,ENGR, OPEC, ID, KU  
SUBJ: KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS INDONEISA

1. SUMMARY: THE KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDONESIA MAY 9-12. HE RENEWED INVITATION FOR PRESIDENT SUHARTO TO VISIT KUWAIT SOMETIME THIS YEAR AND, IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERIES, CONFIRMED THAT KUWAIT MAY POSSIBLE OPEN AN EMBASSY IN JAKARTA THIS YEAR. DISCUSSIONS WITH INDONESIAN OFFICIALS COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES BOTH BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL IN SCOPE. MAIN TOPICS WERE THE MORE DISPUTE IN THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES, OPEC PRICES AND KUWAITI ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA. END SUMMARY

2. KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER SHEIKH SABAH AL AHMAD AL SABAH VISITED INDONESIA MAY 9-12. ACCOMPANYING HIM WERE THE KUWAITI AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA(RESIDENT IN TOKYO) TALLAT YACOB AL GHONEIM, THE DIRECTOR UNCLASSIFIED

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OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OF THE KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTRY MOHAMMAD QASIM AL SAADAH AND THE HEAD OF BUREAU AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ABDEL AZIZ ISA AL KAHDAM. DURING THE COURSE OF THE VISIT, THE KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER AS SABAH PAID A COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT SUHARTO, AND HELD DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH HIS COUNTERTPART FOREIGN MINISTER ADAM MALIK, THE STATE MINISTER FOR ECONOMY, FINANCE AND INDUSTRY WIDJOJO NITI SASTRO, AND THE STATE MINISTER FOR MINING MOHAMMAD SADLI.

3. DURING HIS COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT SUHARTO, FOREIGN MINISTER AL SABAH RENEWED THE INVITATION FOR PRESIDENT SUHARTO TO VISIT KUWAIT

IN RESPONSE TO A PRESS QUERY FOLLOWING THE MEETING, AL SABAH SAID THE TIMING OF THE VISIT WAS "UP TO THE PRESIDENT TO DECIDE." ACCORDING TO ONE PRESS ACCOUNT, AL SABAH DECLINED TO CONFIRM THAT THE VISIT WOULD TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER, 1977. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT MAY OPEN AN EMBASSY IN JAKARTA SOMETIME THIS YEAR.

4. PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT SUGGESTED THAT DISCUSSIONS COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC F ISSUES BOTH BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL IN SCOPE. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE MAIN TOPICS TOUCHED UPON DURING AL SABAH'S VISIT:

A. MORO DISPUTE: IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS, THE KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES ISSUE INVOLVING THE MOSLEM MINORITY'S DEMAND FOR AUTONOMY WAS AN "IMPORTANT ITEM" IN THE TALKS, AND THAT A CONSENSUS HAD BEEN REACHED ( BETWEEN KUWAIT AND INDONESIA) ON THE URGENCY OF SOLVING THE PROBLEM FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE REGION. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, AL SABAH SAID THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT A FAIR SOLUTION WOULD BE FOUND THAT WOULD SATISFY THE MOSLEMS IN THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES. THE FOREIGN MINISTER ADAM MALIK'S VERSION OF THE TALKS ON THE MORO DISPUTE, HOWEVER, CONTRASTS SOMEWHAT TO AL SABAH'S STATEMENT. THE PRESS REPORTED THAT ADAM MALIK SAID HE POINTED OUT TO HIS KUWAITI COUNTERPARTS THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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INDONESIA AS WELL AS ASEAN HAD NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING IN THE MATTER. MOREOVER, ADAM MALIK REMARKED TO THE PRESS THAT HE TOLD HIS COUNTERPART THAT, CONTRARY TO WHAT THE LATTER BELIEVED, THE PHILIPPINE FOREIGN SECRETARY CARLOS ROMULO DID NOT REQUEST INDONESIAN ASSISTANCE IN SETTLING THE DISPUTE WHEN HE MADE A SURPRISE VISIT TO JAKARTA ON MONDAY, MAY 8.

B. OPEC PRICES: ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THE KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER SAID HE HOPED THAT AN AGREEMENT ON A UNIFIED OPEC OIL PRICE COULD BE REACHED BY JULY, 1977. IN ANY CASE, AL SABAH SAID THAT THE UNIFIED PRICE WOULD NOT BE LOWER THAN THAT CURRENTLY APPLIED BY KUWAIT. THE INDONESIAN MINISTER OF MINING MOHAMMAD SADLI WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE FORESAW AN OPEC AGREEMENT ON A UNIFIED PRICE BEFORE THE END OF 1977. THERE WERE INDICATIONS, HE SAID, THAT SAUDI ARABIA AND THE EMIRATES WOULD SOON BE PREPARED TO INCREASE THEIR PRICES.

C. KUWAITI ECONOMIC AID: THE KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTED THAT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS WAS THE "ELASTICITY OF INDONESIAN INVESTMENT POLICY." HE SUGGESTED THAT INDONESIAN REGULATIONS AND LAWS GOVERNING FOREIGN INVESTMENT BE MADE MORE ELASTIC TO ENCOURAGE INCREASED KUWAITI INVESTMENT IN INDONESIA. IN HIS CONCLUDING COMMENTS BEFORE DEPARTMENT INDONESIA, THE KUWAITI

FOREIGN MINISTER INDICATED THAT HIS TALKS WITH INDONESIAN OFFICIALS HAD ENSURED FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

5. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE INDONESIAN FOREIGN DEPARTMENT INDICATED THAT KUWAIT WOULD SHORTLY BE SENDING AN ECONOMIC DELEGATION TO INDONESIA TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING BILATERAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. THE TWO SIDES" NOTED WITH CONCERN" THE WIDE GAP BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND THE THIRD WORLD, AND REITERATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR A ZONE OF PEACE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN"FREE FROM THE RIVALRIES, TENSION AND MILITARY ESCALATION" ASSOCIATED WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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THE GREAT POWERS. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, THE KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER REITERATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION THAT THERE COULD BE NO LASTING

PEACE"WITHOUT THE COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAEL FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND THE RESTORATION OF THE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE."

THE INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, IN A MORE GENERAL VEIN, REAFFIRMED HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING SUPPORT"TO THE ARAB PEOPLES IN THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAELI AGGRESSION." THE INDONESIAN SIDE ALSO USED THIS OCCASION TO RESTATE ITS POSITION ON THE EAST TIMOR ISSUE.

THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE DID NOT MENTION DISCUSSIONS ON THE MORE DISPUTE AND, AS REGARDS OPEC, MERELY ACKNOWLEDGED OPEC'S SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE WORLD ECONOMY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF "PRESERVING AND FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE UNITY OF THE ORGANIZATION" NEWSOM

UNCLASSIFIED

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## Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009